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Letter dated 10 March 2011 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I am writing to you regarding the situation in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and my decision to appoint a Special Envoy to that country.

Over the past weeks, the situation in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has seriously deteriorated. In particular, the disproportionate use of force by the Libyan authorities has forced hundreds of thousands of residents and migrant workers to flee to neighbouring countries, and a large number of people have been killed and wounded.

I have the honour to inform you that I have decided to appoint Abdel-Elah Mohamed Al-Khatib, former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Jordan, to serve as my Special Envoy.

The Special Envoy will be the Secretary-General's high-level representative on the Libyan crisis and will provide overall leadership and oversee the coordination of the United Nations system in this regard. He will work closely with Governments in the region and with the international community.

Mr. Al-Khatib will offer my good offices, consult broadly with the Libyan authorities, neighbouring States, regional organizations and other stakeholders, and explore with them how best to resolve the current crisis in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

In undertaking these tasks, the Special Envoy will be guided, inter alia, by the provisions of Security Council resolution 1970 (2011) which aim at ending the ongoing violence, ensuring accountability and facilitating humanitarian assistance.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon